

REMARKS

This is in full and timely response to the above-identified Office Action. The above listing of the claims supersedes any previous listing. Favorable reexamination and reconsideration are respectfully requested in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

By this amendment, rejected claims 1-4 are cancelled. Inasmuch as claims 5, 7 and 11-17 stand allowed, it submitted that with the cancellation of the rejected claims, all objections and rejections are addressed, and that the present application now stands in *prima facie* condition for allowance. An early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned, Applicant's attorney of record, to facilitate advancement of the present application should any unresolved issues remain.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 08-2025 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
Taro Sugahara *et al.*



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